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Write Prefect of Studies for Catalogue P.

A STORY OF 1925

By F. A. MITCHELL

The nineteenth century, so prolific in inventions and discoveries, laid the foundation for some remarkable steps in knowledge of the functions of the body. During the first decade of the twentieth century, in institutions for original research became aware that there was an intermediate state between life and death, since life in many organisms could be suspended by being frozen in liquid air and afterward resuscitated.

It was found that bacteria, the lowest plant organisms, have enormous powers of resisting death. Bacteria of various diseases were frozen in liquid air at a temperature of minus 300 degrees F. There are instances of the lives of frogs, rats, snails and fish being suspended by this freezing process, yet on being "thawed out" after several weeks they revived.

These animals were found to be perfectly normal when placed in a refrigerating jar filled with liquid air at a certain temperature. After a short time the animals appeared lifeless. A month later they were removed and on being massaged showed signs of life, often reviving completely.

It does not appear that these investigators made experiments with human beings. Doubtless human beings objected to being thrust into a glass tank filled with liquid air 300 degrees below zero.

Since then there has been no effort to discover whether human beings could be frozen and brought to life.

In 1885 a party of tourists started from the town of Chamoni, in Switzerland, by the old route to climb Mont Blanc, the railroad to the summit not then having been built. One of the guides, Hans Twingle, twenty years old, was to be married on his return to Anna Bishof, three years his junior. The lovers, in the first freshness of youth, bade each other goodbye, the girl in tears, for she had dreamed that she had been separated from Hans till she was an old woman near sixty, when she met him again, he being a youth of twenty. At that age he had no sympathy for an old woman and turned his back upon her. At the parting she feared that her dream boded some trouble either for her lover or herself.

And so it did. When the party returned to Chamoni Hans Twingle was not with them. He had fallen into a crevasse on the glacier hundreds of feet deep, and no effort was made to recover his body. The glacier moves at such a rate that it would bring Hans' body down to a point where the ice would give it up in exactly forty years. Anna Bishof, though she married, all her life hoped that she would live to look once more on the lover of her youth when he should be returned from his icy grave.

A few years ago Dr. Donenshunner, an investigator of the Institute for Original Research, went to Chamoni and heard the story of Hans and Anna. He found the latter an old woman and on questioning her as to the date that Hans had disappeared learned that the body was due to come forth from the glacier during the summer of the year 1925. On the 1st of July last the doctor went over to Chamoni and waited for the appearance of the body. He did not reveal his purpose, since it seemed so quixotic that he feared derision. It was to determine with the assistance of the latest scientific methods whether Hans was dead or in the suspensory state and, if the latter, whether he could be brought to life.

It was late in September before Hans' body appeared. Dr. Donenshunner had revealed his intention to the deceased relatives and secured their permission to resuscitate him. He had secured a bathtub, which he filled with water at 33 degrees, or one degree above the freezing point. He placed the body in this tub and gradually advanced the temperature, massaging the thorax about the heart and extending the operation over the whole body.

A record of what further expedients the scientist resorted to he turned over to his institute, where they are on file. Doubtless they would be too professional to be given here. The point I wish to mention especially is how his former sweetheart's dream came true. When Hans, still a man of twenty, had been restored Anna, attended by her granddaughter, was introduced to the apartment where he was. Hans sprang up, brushed by his former sweetheart, nearly knocking her over, and, throwing his arms around the granddaughter, exclaimed:

"Anna—dear heart, I am back with you in time for our wedding!"
 "Gott in himmel!" exclaimed the old woman. "My dream has come true! He spins me!"
 "What is the old hag saying?" queried Hans.
 "Old hag!" whined Anna. Then, losing control of herself, she seized a broom standing in a corner and belabored him unmercifully.

Dr. Donenshunner blames himself for a scene that was too much for a heart that had been frozen forty years. He did all in his power to bring Hans back to life a second time, but his efforts were futile.

The incident had a singular effect upon the granddaughter, who was but seventeen years old and not prepared for such a strain. She accused her grandmother of having murdered Hans. The people of Chamoni say that the girl gave her heart to a man old enough to be her grandfather.

Dignity of Senatorial Visiting.

There is something impressive in the way one senator generally calls on another in the office building at Washington. A repressive dignity precludes the old time free and easy method of "dropping in to see Tom" or Jim or Jack—kicking in the door and sitting down on the table or desk and "smoking up" without invitation. Today there is a sedate step, measured and regular, as the senator sets out to call, with a manner and bearing that at once suggest senatorial dignity and courtesy. Such a bearing and dignity must perform the place of the impressive senatorial toga of the old days, and a visiting dramatist (to be sure) has suggested that it would be most fascinating to come to the senate on some holiday and find the distinguished gentlemen who now wear tweed and business suits attired in the Caesarian toga and mantle—a mise en scene that would leave Shakespeare's Julius Caesar at its best presentation hopelessly in the background. —Joe Mitchell Chapple in National Magazine.

Dreamland.

Most people sleep for about eight hours out of the daily twenty-four. That means they sleep one-third of each day, or one-third of their entire lives. And, according to many scientists, the whole time we are asleep we dream. We do not remember most of these dreams. Indeed, we remember only the very last one before we wake or some dream that is so vivid it wakes us. In other words, for one-third of our total lives we are dwelling in dreamland. And dreamland is a country of more utter absurdities, more grisly horrors, more fears, hopes, surprises and novelties than any land described by the most imaginative author. It is a land full of mystery, a land that science has for sixty centuries sought in vain to explore. It lies amid wholly unexplored regions of the human brain, regions which its possessors never saw. —New York World.

Forecasting the Weather.

Here are a few hints for forecasting the following day's weather. First of all, look at the northwest for your weather. However, threatening the sky may appear. If you see a bit of blue in the northwest you won't have a steady downpour. At the worst it will only be showery.

If the sky has been very dim and the blue sky is suddenly speckled over in the evening with little curly clouds then look out for a change of weather. The longer they take to form the longer the time before the change comes about.

A red sun in the early morning is a bad sign, for there will be wet weather before the next twenty-four hours are over. Though the sky at sunrise may be absolutely cloudless, yet if the eastern horizon is red or orange the clouds will roll up and rain probably will fall before nightfall.

Evening red and morning gray, Two sure signs of one fine day.

Tennyson's Last Hours.

Dr. G. H. R. Dabbs was the medical attendant on Tennyson during the latter's last illness. A few hours before the end the poet turned to the doctor and said "Death?" The doctor merely bowed his head. "That's well," said Tennyson. Dr. Dabbs has left on record a picture of the concluding scene. "Nothing," he writes, "could have been more striking. . . . On the bed a figure of breathing marble, flooded and bathed in the light of the full moon streaming through the oriel window; his hand clasping the Shakespeare which he had asked for but recently and which he had kept by him to the end; the moonlight, the majestic figure as he lay there, 'drawing thicker breath,' irresistibly brought to our minds his own 'Passing of Aetna'.

South African Lame Sickness.

An investigation of the South African disease known as lamziekte, or lame sickness, suggests that it is due to a special plant poison that is generated under abnormal conditions in grasses and other plants that are normally harmless. Its development seems to be associated with unusual weather and soil experiences, of which summer drought is important. Through such conditions wintering would favor the formation of the poison, and this gives explanation for the common belief that the disease results from eating wilted plants.

The Equator in Africa.

At the equator in Africa there are only two seasons—the wet and the dry. The former lasts eight months. During the rains the natives live in houses made principally of bamboo and roofed with leaves, but as soon as the rains stop they set out for the forests and jungles.

Writes Some Good Things.

Chlorinda—How can you dream of marrying a man who writes such awfully stupid love letters? Marigold—But just think, dear—he can write the most beautiful checks, and that's the main thing you know, after one's married. Judge.

Misunderstanding.

Distressed Damsel—Oh, sir, catch that man! He wanted to kiss me! Pensive Pedestrian—That's all right. There'll be another one along in a minute.—Purple Cow.

Once is Enough.

Proh—They say lightning never strikes twice in the same place. Kohn—Well, what's the use?—Louisville Times.

Great men exist that there may be greater men.

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